

State Representative Sheila Klinker was elected to the Indiana House of Representatives in 1982 to represent Indiana House District 27 (serving parts of both Lafayette and West Lafayette). A proud Boilermaker, Klinker received her bachelor's in education and two master's degrees in elementary education as well as administration and supervision from Purdue University. She is a former teacher who taught for more than 34 years in the Lafayette School Corporation and worked as the Outreach Liaison for the Purdue School of Education for 15 years.

The list of legislative initiatives by Klinker to improve Hoosier lives is extensive. She has pushed legislation improving all levels of education, prenatal substance abuse initiatives, First Steps for children 0 to 2, preschool disability services for children 3 to 5, guardianship issues, veterans issues, protection and advocacy issues, as well as most recently authoring legislation to create Lifelong Learning Accounts (LiLAs) for low-income working adults pursuing education or job training.

Klinker was named "Miss Purdue" in the early 60's and finished as second runner-up in the "Miss Indiana" contest, winning a scholarship. She also recently served as the Grand Marshall of the 2018 Purdue Grand Prix. Klinker lives in Lafayette with her husband, Victor. They have three children and five grandchildren.